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cephalus, which is possibly temnospondylous, occurs first in the Upper Carboniferous. A close parallel of this is found in the discovery of *Eryops* by Case² in the Upper Pennsylvanian of Pennsylvania. The progress of discovery is thus forcing further and further back into geological time the origin of the Amphibia. We now know nearly all of the types of the so-called Stegocephala from the Carboniferous and some of them occur well down in the system.

The results given by Broili are based in large part on the geological and paleobotanical studies of Weithofer and Feistmantel. The report is a lengthy one and occupies some twenty pages, including lists of the vertebrates and the plants which occur in the "Gaskohle schichten."

Bison occidentalis.—In the last issue of the *Kansas University Science Bulletin* Dr. C. E. McClung¹ has described and figured a mounted skeleton of *Bison occidentalis*. This specimen was first noted by Williston in 1902.² It was later³ described by Stewart as belonging to the species *B. antiquus* which is now assigned to *B. occidentalis*. The skeleton has only recently been mounted by Mr. H. T. Martin and is noteworthy as being the only mounted skeleton of a Pleistocene bison. The specimen is further noteworthy because of an arrow point found under the right scapula as if it had been imbedded in the flesh before death. From his study of the mounted skeleton Dr. McClung reaches the conclusion that the extinct species was of a more cursorial type than is the modern *Bison bison*.

Nectosaurus.—Three years ago Dr. J. C. Merriam¹ gave to the world a memoir on a peculiar group of marine reptiles which he had discovered in the Triassic rocks of California and to which he gave the appropriate name of Thalattosauria. He has recently² added to the knowledge of the Thalattosauria by additional notes on the anatomy of Nectosaurus. From his recent studies Merriam concludes that Nectosaurus is a shore dwelling form and the evidence seems strong enough to warrant

² *Annals Carnegie Museum*, Vol. IV, No. III-IV, 1908.

¹ *Kans. Univ. Sci. Bull.*, Vol. IV, No. 10.

² *Amer. Geol.*, Vol. XXX, International Congress of Americanists, 1902.

³ *Kansas Univ. Quarterly*, 1897.

¹ *Memoirs Calif. Acad. Science*, Vol. V, No. 1.

² *University of California Publications, Geology*, Vol. 5, No. 13.